

Message from the President

Happy New Year! It was so much fun to see so many of you in Houston, and to wonder, as Marjorie Spruill set us to doing in her wonderful lecture on the 1977 International Women's Year Conferences, just whether or not *we* were sleeping in a room once graced by Bella Abzug, or Billie Jean King, or some other luminary of the IWY conference held in Houston! I'd like to thank Vanderbilt University, George Mason University, LSU Press, and so many other presses, as well as all the sensational SAWH volunteers who helped make our part of the SHA conference a success. We raised over a thousand dollars at our book sale, for which I am particularly grateful. I'm looking forward to seeing you all again in Memphis next year.

We will indeed have something terrific to celebrate in Memphis in 2004: the publication of *Clio's Southern Sisters*, a collection of the oral histories of the presidents of SAWH during its first 25 years, edited by Constance Shultz and Elizabeth Turner! Everyone who has read this manuscript during its progress toward publication professes awe with its stories of the hardships and survival strategies our predecessors endured in the all-male world of the history profession in the South. In order to mark appropriately the importance of such a publication, and to express our gratitude toward our former leaders, we will have an extra-special reception in Memphis in honor of those presidents, accompanied by a book-signing. We're hoping that as many of SAWH's former presidents as possible will make it to Memphis, so please start planning now to attend.

On the same topic of publications: Angela Boswell and Judith McArthur are well on the way to editing the volume of essays based on papers submitted from the 6th Conference in Athens. I've seen the list of included essays, and like those before it, it promises to be an excellent compilation of the best research in southern women's history today. We'll look forward to seeing that volume, probably about the time of the 7th conference.

Assuming we aren't having that conference by internet connections or a séance or some such less physical manifestation. Perhaps by the time you're reading this letter we will have secured a site for the 7th conference, and perhaps

not. If you feel that you or your institution, or you and several institutions in your area might be willing to undertake this effort, or you'd just like to explore what is involved, please contact Melissa Walker or me as soon as possible. This is a great way to serve this organization, and I hope that you will each give it some serious thought. By the way, under the leadership of Sandy Treadway, a committee has begun work on securing a replacement for the irreplaceable Melissa Walker, our Executive Secretary whose term ends in 2005, and I'd like to thank those who have donated their time and energy to that effort. If you have anything to contribute toward that committee's work, please contact Sandy.

At the Executive Council meeting in Houston we learned just what important service the SAWH has been doing. In particular, under the guidance of Judy Gentry, the Ad Hoc Committee on the Status of Women, presented the findings of their study. That report is summarized elsewhere in this newsletter. I urge you to look at the summary, and to read the entire report, which can be found at the H-SAWH website. It indicates that though women have progressed quite far at southern colleges and universities in the last 20 years, they are still significantly under-represented in the most powerful and well-paid positions within their departments. We owe a debt of gratitude to Judy and her committee, Eva Baham, June K. Burton, and Barbara Schnorrenberg, for their hard work.

Following up on one of the recommendations of that committee, which had a difficult time in assessing just how race affected women's status in the profession, the Executive Council voted to establish an Ad Hoc Committee on the Status of African American Women in the profession. You'll be hearing more about the work of that committee in the coming months. If you're interested in working in consultation with that committee, please do let me know.

Lastly, Executive Council member (and former SAWH and SHA president) Jacquelyn Dowd Hall, brought up a matter of some concern to all of us practicing history in the United States today. In connection with her activities within the

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Job Opening

Texas A&M University is providing significant funding for the Department of History to further develop its signature program in Comparative Border Studies. The newly awarded positions together with previously budgeted positions allow us to hire nine tenured or tenure track faculty over the next three years. The first hires, scheduled to begin fall 2004 are:

Professor, History of Gender
Associate Professor, Asia
Assistant Professor, Medieval Europe

The scholar hired to fill the senior position in history of gender will play a leading role in the recruitment of new faculty in the coming years and contribute to the further development of the graduate program. The senior scholar position will remain open until filled, but the Search Committee will begin considering candidates February 16, 2004. Salary competitive.

Please send nominations and applications to:
Cynthia Bouton
Chair, History of Gender Search Committee
Department of History, Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843-4236

Call For Papers!

Proposals for individual papers or panels on any aspect of Illinois history, culture, politics, geography, literature, and archaeology are requested for the Conference on Illinois History. Each proposal should include a summary of the topic and a one-page resume of the participant. The summary should specify the major primary and secondary sources used in the research. Proposals should be for formal, footnoted papers. The deadline for proposals is March 26, 2004. Send proposals to:

Thomas F. Schwartz, State Historian
Illinois Historic Preservation Agency
1 Old State Capital Plaza
Springfield, Illinois 62701-1507

Phone: 217-782-2118
Fax: 217-785-7937
Email: tom_schwartz@ihpa.state.il.us

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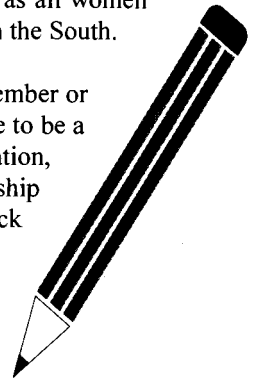
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Membership is \$18 per year for regular members, and \$5 per year for graduate students, retirees, and independent scholars. A lifetime membership is available for \$200, payable in quarterly installments. The SAWH especially welcomes as members women and men who are interested in southern history and/or women's history, as well as all women historians in any field who live in the South.

If you would like to become a member or know of someone who would like to be a member of this dynamic organization, just fill out the enclosed membership form and mail it in with your check made payable to SAWH.



Please Keep Us Informed

We would love to know what you've been doing lately. Please send member news and address changes to us by March 1, 2004 for the Spring 2004 newsletter. (Please write **legibly**. Sometimes it is quite a challenge to decipher member names and news.)

Please send all correspondence to:
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Spartanburg, SC 29302
Melissa.walker@converse.edu

CONGRATULATIONS PRIZE WINNERS!

The 2003 Julia Cherry Spruill Book Prize
&

The 2003 Willie Lee Rose Book Prize
were awarded to

Sharla M. Fett

for

*Working Cures: Healing, Health, and Power on
Southern Slave Plantations*

The 2003 A. Elizabeth Taylor Prize

was awarded to

Emily Clark

and

Virginia Meacham Gould

For

*"The Feminine Face of Afro-Catholicism in New
Orleans, 1727-1852"*

William and Mary Quarterly

April 2002

President's Message continued

OAH, Jackie has noted an increase in federal funding into initiatives for history education. Some of this money has been channeled into efforts toward a type of "patriotic" education that suggests a lack of public understanding of the historical profession and of the nation's history. The National Coalition for History has attempted to lobby on behalf of the history profession, but that organization has only one lobbyist in Washington. Historians have consistently found themselves out-manuevered in communicating with the public about what history is and what historians do. While our Executive Council has voted to increase our annual contribution to the NCH to \$400, Jackie suggested that the SAWH may also want to enter discussions with other professional organizations about improving our efforts on this essential task, perhaps by hiring other lobbyists or organizing our voices at the grassroots level. The Executive Council and I welcome the SAWH's membership's thoughts on this important issue.

I look forward to hearing from you all on these and other matters. In the meantime, stay warm and take care!

Stephanie Cole
scole@uta.edu

SAWH Publication Prizes

The Southern Association for Women Historians invites submissions for its annual publications prizes. To be eligible, entries must be written in English, but the competition is not restricted to works published in the U.S.

Books

The **Julia Cherry Spruill Prize** of \$750 is awarded for the best published book in southern women's history. The **Willie Lee Rose Prize** of \$750 is awarded for the best book in southern history authored by a woman (or women). For both of these prizes, only monographs are eligible. Books with a copyright date of 2003 are eligible for both the Spruill and/or Rose prizes.

Articles

The **A. Elizabeth Taylor Prize** is awarded annually for the best article published during the preceding year in the field of southern women's history. Articles published in journals and anthologies between January 1 and December 31, 2003 are eligible. Editors, scholars, and authors are invited to nominate eligible articles for the prize.

To Nominate a Publication:

Four (4) copies of each entry must be mailed to the following address no later than **April 1, 2004**, and all entries must be clearly marked with the name of the prize competition being entered. Please mail submissions to:

Melissa Walker
Converse College, Department of History and Politics
580 East Main Street
Spartanburg, South Carolina 29302

If you have questions about any of these competitions, you may contact SAWH executive secretary at 864-596-9104 or via email:
melissa.walker@converse.edu

The SAWH Ad Hoc Committee on the Status of Women Reports

The SAWH has a long tradition of working to improve conditions and opportunities for women in the historical profession. In keeping with this tradition, in 2000, SAWH President Amy Thompson McCandless created an ad hoc Committee on the Status of Women in the Profession. She charged the committee with the following up on a 1984 Southern Historical Association study of the status of women in the profession. McCandless asked for the new committee to ascertain the extent to which employment opportunities and opportunities to advance within the profession may have improved for women historians employed as faculty members in Southern colleges and universities in the years since the 1984 study. Judith F. Gentry chaired the effort, and committee members included Eva Baham, June K. Burton, and Barbara Schnorrenberg. After more than three years of work, the Committee presented its findings to the SAWH Executive Council at its annual meeting in November.

The report can be viewed in its entirety, including extensive methodological notes and analysis on the SAWH website at <http://www.h-net.org/~sawh/>.

Percentage Female of All Full-time Historians in the South 2002-03

Studied by Academic Rank and Size of Department

(N=3,120)

AND 1983 COMPARISON DATA

Size	Chairs	Full Prof.	Assoc. Prof.	Asst. Prof	Inst./Lec.
Available Pool*	31.2%	24.7%	37.7%	39.2%	39.2%
Large—20 or more N=1,649	8.3%	14.1%	32.2%	44.6%	45.0%
Medium—7-19 N=1,195	16.8%	15.6%	31.5%	38.9%	48.5%
Small—1-6 N=276	26.3%	20.8%	28.0%	39.0%	0%
All Sizes (2002-2003)	17.0%	15.1%	31.6%	41.5%	44.2%
All Sizes (1983)	10.8%	8.0%	13.7%	25.2%	38.7%

**The committee considered all women who received their Ph.D.s between 1970 and 1995 as part of the available pool for full professor and department chair. Women who received their Ph.D.s between 1989 and 1995 were the available pool for associate professors, and between 1996 and 2002 as the available pool for assistant professors and instructors. See the web site and the full report for more information on the report's methodology.*

Taking as part of its goals to update a 1984 study published in the *Journal of Southern History*, the committee found that Southern colleges and universities, taken as a whole, have substantially improved their record of hiring women historians during the last nineteen years. In 2002-2003, women's representation among historians employed in Southern colleges and universities is essentially equal to their representation in the profession. This is an extremely important step toward providing equity for women historians in employment. Women are somewhat underrepresented at the associate professor rank, but Southern colleges have nonetheless made dramatic improvements in promoting women to the middle ranks. The most serious finding was that women have not advanced to the rank of full professor nor have they been selected to serve as department chairpersons in proportion to availability within history departments in the South or in proportion to the national pool of PhD's of appropriate experience.

The committee noted that women in the profession are standing at an important window of opportunity. In the next five to ten years, a large number of full professors will be retiring. Since history departments in Southern colleges and universities have a rather large pool of women associate professors on their campuses from which to recommend promotion to full professor and selection as chairpersons, there is reason to hope that women will advance to these senior positions in significant numbers in the coming decade.

As was the case nineteen years ago, small colleges have the best overall record for hiring and promoting women historians and for selecting women as department chairpersons. And compared to nineteen years ago, the large universities and those in the mountain states still have the worst record for promoting women historians and for selecting women as department chairpersons. The Deep South has emerged as a lagging region in providing equity for women employed in history departments in southern colleges and universities. In contrast with nineteen years ago, however, the large universities have recently taken the lead in hiring women historians at the assistant professor level and in promoting them to associate professor.

The SAWH executive council commended the committee on its work and accepted the committee's detailed report. The Council also accepted the Committee's recommendations to widely disseminate the report, to work with the SHA Committee on Women to develop strategies for continuing to improve opportunities for women historians, and to create an ad hoc committee to study the status of African American women in the SHA, the SAWH, and as historians employed by Southern colleges and universities. Although African-American women were a part of this study of employment, the database did not identify historians by ethnicity or race.

In the coming months, watch your newsletter for more information on this on-going effort.

MEMBER NEWS

Jacqueline G. Campbell (*University of Connecticut*) had her first book, *When Sherman Marched North from the Sea: Resistance on the Confederate Home Front*, published by University of North Carolina Press.

Catherine Fosl (*University of Louisville*) was named co-winner of the 2003 Book-of-the-Year Award by the Oral History Association for her recent book, *Subversive Southerner: Anne Braden and the Struggle for Racial Justice in the Cold War South*, which was published by Palgrave Macmillan.

Tammy Harden Galloway (*Independent Scholar*) will publish her third book *Old Roswell: The Civil War Letters of the King Family of Roswell, Georgia*, with Mercer University Press in 2004.

Judith McArthur (*University of Houston-Victoria*), and co-author Harold L. Smith, have just published *Minnie Fisher Cunningham: A Suffragist's Life in Politics*.

Victoria E. Ott (*University of Tennessee*) completed a Ph. D. in History at the University of Tennessee in May 2003. She is currently working on revising her dissertation, *When the Flower Blooms in Winter: Young Women Coming of Age in the Confederacy* for publication. She will also teach courses in the University of Tennessee history department.

Judith Kelleher Schafer (*Tulane University*) published a new book entitled *Becoming Free, Remaining Free: Manumission and Enslavement in New Orleans, 1846-1862*, with Louisiana State University Press. She was awarded the student-voted "best advisor award" and was promoted to full professor at Tulane as of July 1, 2003. She is currently doing research for another book on public women in New Orleans in the period prior to the Civil War.

Carolyn H. Sung (*Library of Congress*) has had two biographical sketches published in the *South Carolina Encyclopedia of Women's Biography*. She wrote about Sara Ayers Catawba Potter as well as Ida Jane Dacus, a pioneer professional librarian at Winthrop College from 1904-1945.

Rose Gladney Lecture Series

The department of American Studies at the University of Alabama announces it is raising funds to support a new lecture series to honor longtime SAWH member Rose Gladney. The lecture series will be entitled **The Rose Gladney Lecture on Justice and Social Change**. Dr. Gladney, who recently retired as an associate professor of American studies, spent her career working on issues of social justice and change. She was one of the early professors in UA's women's studies department and helped craft the master's program in that field. The department is working toward a goal of raising twenty thousand dollars that will enable the lecture series to become a yearly event. Anyone interested in making a contribution to the establishment of the fund should contact Dr. Lynne Adrian, associate professor of American studies at (205) 348-9762.

New Members

Deborah Belcher, *Auburn University*
Ellen A. Brown, *Virginia Tech*
Emily Conrad, *University of North Carolina-Greensboro*
Tim Downs, *independent scholar*
Leslie Dunlap, *Willamette University*
Ivy Holliman, *University of Georgia*
Barbara R. Isaacs, *Loyola University-Chicago*
Alicia Jackson, *University of Mississippi*
Peter Kolchin, *University of Delaware*
Taylor Patterson, *Occidental College*
Lisa J. Pruitt, *Middle Tennessee State University*
Elizabeth P. Smith, *independent scholar*
Emily Zuckerman, *Rutgers University*

2004 SAWH Executive Council

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SAWH NOMINATING COMMITTEE SEEKS SUGGESTIONS

The SAWH nominating committee, chaired by past president Jane Turner Censer, is hard at work developing a slate of candidates for the 2004 executive council elections. If you have suggestions for the positions of second vice president, executive council representative, or graduate representative, please email Jane at jcense1@gmu.edu.

CCWH CATHERINE PRELINGER AWARD

The Coordinating Council for Women in History is pleased to announce it will accept applications for the seventh annual CCWH Catherine Prelinger Scholarship Award of \$20,000 that will be awarded to a scholar of excellence by July 1, 2004. This award, named for Catherine Prelinger, a former CCWH president and nontraditional scholar, is intended to enhance the work of a contemporary scholar whose academic path has not followed the traditional path of uninterrupted study, moving from completed secondary, to undergraduate, then graduate degrees, followed by a tenure-track faculty position. These funds were granted to CCWH by an anonymous donor in honor of the many years of work this organization has devoted to exploring women's history, encouraging opportunities for women in the historical profession, and in educating young women to pursue academic careers in the historical profession. This award is intended to enhance the ability of the recipient to carry on these CCWH traditions through contributions to women in history, either through scholarly or professional activity.

Eligible applicants must be members of CCWH and must hold either A.B.D. status or the Ph.D. at the time of application. They shall be actively engaged in scholarship that is historical in nature, although the degree may be in related fields. Applicants will show evidence of a nontraditional professional career and describe a project that will further enhance women's roles in history. For membership information, see the CCWH website at <http://www.ccwh.org> or contact M. Christine Anderson, Department of History, Xavier University, Cincinnati, OH, 45207-4444; e-mail: AndersoC@xavier.edu. Deadline for applications is **April 2, 2004**.

Request applications from: Dr. Marguerite Renner,
Department of History, Glendale Community College,
1500 North Verdugo Road, Glendale, CA 91208,
e-mail: preenner@glendale.edu